

Statistic: Nonfarm Employment (seasonally-adjusted)

Analysis:

Iowa nonfarm employment has been expanding at about a 19,300-job annual pace since the second half of calendar year 2011. According to current numbers and using the seasonally-adjusted nonfarm employment series, Iowa employment first exceeded its prerecession peak (May 2008 = 1,528,000) in July 2013, and with the 1,582,100 December 2016 reading, employment is 54,100 jobs above the May 2008 peak. The December 2016 seasonally-adjusted nonfarm employment estimate represents an increase of 1,900 jobs (0.1%) compared to the previous month and an increase of 8,200 jobs (0.5%) compared to December 2015.

While over the past two years Iowa nonfarm employment has increased 22,900 jobs (1.5%), there has been significant variability within the employment sectors. Growth and contraction by selected major industry category includes:

- Construction employment increased 12,200 jobs (16.3%).
- Health Care and Social Assistance increased 8,400 jobs (4.5%).
- Financial Activities expanded 7,000 jobs (6.7%).
- Manufacturing declined 9,100 jobs (4.2%).
- The combination of Retail and Wholesale Trade decreased 2,100 jobs (0.8%).

Additional information can be found on the Legislative Services Agency's Economic Trends webpage at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/publications/fiscal/economicTrends>. The webpage includes links to source sites and the underlying data for each Economic Trends indicator.

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